

CLASSIFICATION **SECRET**

COUNTRY	East Germany	REPORT	
TOPIC	Military Activities in Zeitz and the Zeitz Forest		25X1
EVALUATION		PLACE OBTAINED	25X1
DATE OF CONTENT			25X1
DATE OBTAINED		DATE PREPARED	10 June 1955
REFERENCES			25X1
PAGES	2	ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)	
REMARKS	This is UNEVALUATED Information		25X1
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- Between 10 and 23 May 1955, the Infanterie Kaserne east of Friedensstrasse (8541) in Zeitz was occupied by approximately 400 soldiers wearing red-bordered black and black-bordered red epaulets. On 13 May, 4 T-34/85 tanks were seen in front of the vehicle sheds. At 0630 on 14 May, 6 T-34/85 tanks were seen leaving the installation toward Zeitz Forest. A lifting platform with a capacity of 60 tons was under construction. On 28 April, 11 M-13 rocket launchers and 6 trucks which had been stored in front of building No 4, went to the freight station and were entrained. The vehicles were occupied by some 150 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia. <sup>1</sup>
- Between 2200 and 2400 on 9 May, some 150 trucks, including 25 trucks occupied by personnel, left toward Forest Zeitz. <sup>1</sup>
- Between 10 and 15 May, the Artillery Kaserne west of Friedensstrasse (8542) was occupied by some 500 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets. Between 16 and 23 May, the installation was occupied by an estimated 200 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets with tank insignia. At about 2330 on 13 May, 12 to 14 T-34/85 tanks were seen en route from the Zeitz Forest toward the installation. On 23 May, 7 T-34/85 tanks were seen in the tank sheds. <sup>2</sup>
- Between 8 and 15 May, the entire Zeitz Forest was occupied by Soviet troops. The bulk of the units was quartered in brick buildings of Friedenssiedlung (settlement) and in 25 round and 6 house-type tents. The Friedenssiedlung was believed to be occupied by an estimated 1,200 soldiers wearing black-bordered red epaulets. A water pipe line to the settlement was under construction. Additional 18 round tents were seen along the edge of the woods. Between 0800 and 1500 on 8 May, 12 T-34/85 tanks were seen at the training grounds. Additional camouflaged tanks and trucks were seen in young woods. At 1030 on 12 May, 2 JS-2 and 2 JS-3 tanks were seen at the edge of the woods west-northwest of Lessen. Subsequently, these tanks, which mounted soldiers, proceeded toward Grosser Stern. Reports of tank gu

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submachine guns were heard from the training area. On 15 May, the area was occupied as previously. Eight 100-mm AT guns were for the first time observed in the northern portion of the training area. 3

1. Comment. The rocket launchers are an indication of the 24th Gds RL Bn of the 20th Gds Mecz Div believed stationed in the adjoining Artillerie Kaserne.

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2. Comment. It appears as if the bulk of the units of the 20th Gds Mecz Div stationed in Zeitz is going to conduct summer exercises in the Zeitz Forest. The 100-mm AT guns presumably belonged to the 308th Arty Brig of the XXVIII Gds Mtz Rifle Corps from Gera.

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